

House Bill 995 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Maxwell of the 17th and Butler of the 18th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing for the creation of a multimember board of commissioners as the
2 governing authority of Haralson County, approved August 24, 2001 (Ga. L. 2001 Ex. Sess.,
3 p. 247), so as to provide for staggered terms of office for members of the board of
4 commissioners; to provide for submission of this Act for preclearance under the federal
5 Voting Rights Act of 1965; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
6 other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act providing for the creation of a multimember board of commissioners as the
10 governing authority of Haralson County, approved August 24, 2001 (Ga. L. 2001 Ex. Sess.,
11 p. 247), is amended by revising subsections (a) and (b) of Section 3 to read as follows:

12 "(a) Those members of the board who are serving as such on January 1, 2008, and any
13 person selected to fill a vacancy in any such office shall continue to serve as such members
14 until the regular expiration of their respective terms of office on December 31, 2008, and
15 the election and qualification of their respective successors as provided in subsection (b)
16 of this section.

17 (b)(1) The chairperson and members of the board from commissioner districts 1 and 3
18 shall be elected at the general election on the Tuesday next following the first Monday
19 in November, 2008. The chairperson and those members of the board elected thereto
20 from commissioner districts 1 and 3 in 2008 shall take office the first day of January
21 immediately following that election and shall serve for terms of office of four years each
22 and until the election and qualification of their respective successors. Those and all
23 future successors to the chairperson and members from commissioner districts 1 and 3
24 whose terms of office are to expire shall be elected at the time of the state-wide general
25 election immediately preceding the expiration of such terms, shall take office the first day

1 of January immediately following that election, and shall serve for terms of office of four
2 years each and until their respective successors are elected and qualified.

3 (2) The members of the board from commissioner districts 2 and 4 shall be elected at the
4 general election on the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 2008.

5 Those members of the board elected thereto from commissioner districts 2 and 4 in 2008
6 shall take office the first day of January immediately following that election and shall
7 serve for initial terms of office which expire December 31, 2010, and upon the election
8 and qualification of their respective successors. Those and all future successors to
9 members from commissioner districts 2 and 4 whose terms of office are to expire shall
10 be elected at the time of the state-wide general election immediately preceding the
11 expiration of such terms, shall take office the first day of January immediately following
12 that election, and shall serve for terms of office of four years each and until their
13 respective successors are elected and qualified."

14 **SECTION 2.**

15 The Board of Commissioners of Haralson County shall through its legal counsel cause this
16 Act to be submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as
17 amended; and such submission shall be made to the United States Department of Justice or
18 filed with the appropriate court no later than 30 days after the date on which this Act
19 becomes effective.

20 **SECTION 3.**

21 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
22 without such approval.

23 **SECTION 4.**

24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.